

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions. Please amend claims 1, 2, 24, 28, 34, 42, 47, and 48 as follows. In accordance with the Revised Amendment Format, the status of all claims and the markings in the "Currently Amended" claims 1, 2, 24, 28, 34, 42, 47, and 48 are presented below.

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1. (Currently Amended) A data communication system comprising:  
a source node; and  
~~one or more~~ destination nodes,  
wherein the source node is adapted to set a segment size in accordance  
with ~~a reception capability~~ reception capabilities of the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes, to  
segment object data into one or more segments in accordance with the segment size, and  
asynchronously to transfer data in each segment to the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via a  
logical connection.

2. (Currently Amended) A data communication system according to  
Claim 1, wherein the source node is adapted to transfer data continuously in each segment to the  
~~one or more~~ destination nodes via the logical connection.

3 - 7. (Previously Cancelled)

8. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the source node is adapted to set the segment size in accordance with the size of a receiving buffer in each destination node.

9. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the source node is adapted to set the segment size in accordance with a maximum payload size of a packet received by each destination node.

61 10. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the source node is adapted to set the segment size in accordance with the lowest reception capability.

11. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the segment size of each segment is variable.

12-19. (Previously Canceled)

20. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the data communication system is a serial bus system.

21. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the data communication system conforms to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

22. (Previously Amended) A data communication system according to Claim 1, wherein the object data is one of image data, audio data, graphics data, and text data.

23. (Previously Canceled)

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24. (Currently Amended) A data communication method of transferring object data from a source node to ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via a logical connection, the method comprising :

a setting step, of setting a segment size in accordance with ~~a reception capability~~ reception capabilities of the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes;

a segmentation step, of segmenting the object data into one or more segments in accordance with the segment size; and

a transfer step, of ~~asynchronously~~ transferring data in each segment from the source node to the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via the logical connection.

25 - 27. (Previously Canceled)

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28. (Currently Amended) A data communication apparatus that transfers object data to ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via a logical connection, the apparatus comprising:

setting means for setting a segment size in accordance with ~~a reception capability~~ reception capabilities of the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes;

segmenting means for segmenting the object data into one or more segments in accordance with the segment size; and

transferring means for ~~asynchronously~~ transferring data in each segment to the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via the logical connection.

29 - 33. (Previously Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the transfer step includes continuously transferring data in each segment from the source node to the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via the logical connection.

35. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the setting step includes setting the segment size in accordance with the size of a receiving buffer in each destination node.

36. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the setting step includes setting the segment size in accordance with a maximum payload size of a packet receivable by each destination node.

37. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the setting step includes setting the segment size in accordance with the lowest reception capability.

38. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the segment size of each segment is variable.

B/ 39. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the data communication method is applicable to a serial bus system.

40. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the data communication method is applicable to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

41. (Previously Added) A data communication method according to claim 24, wherein the object data is one of image data, audio data, graphics data, and text data.

42. (Currently Amended) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the transferring means is adapted to continuously transfer data in each segment to the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes via the logical connection.

43. (Previously Added) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the setting means is adapted to set the segment size in accordance with the size of a receiving buffer in each destination node.

44. (Previously Added) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the setting means is adapted to set the segment size in accordance with a maximum payload size of a packet receivable by each destination node.

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45. (Previously Added) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the setting means is adapted to set the segment size in accordance with the lowest reception capability.

46. (Previously Added) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the segment size of each segment is variable.

47. (Currently Amended) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the apparatus and the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes are in a serial bus system.

48. (Currently Amended) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the apparatus and the ~~one or more~~ destination nodes are in a system that conforms to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

B/ 49. (Previously Added) A data communication apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the object data is one of image data, audio data, graphics, data, and text data.

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